

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

calibrating at least one recorded spoken word by controlling each of the at least one recorded spoken words to have substantially the same sound energy;

presenting the at least one calibrated recorded spoken word to a test subject;

and

measuring a speech reception threshold of the test subject by utilizing the at least one calibrated recorded spoken word, wherein the speech reception threshold is indicative of a sound level at which the test subject can recognize the presented recorded spoken word or words.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said presenting at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

presenting the at least one calibrated spoken word having root-mean-squared calibration.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said presenting at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

presenting the at least one calibrated spoken word having peak value calibration.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said presenting at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

transmitting the at least one calibrated spoken word via at least one audio speaker.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said measuring a speech reception threshold utilizing the at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

accepting test subject input in response to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word; and

decreasing a speech parameter if the test subject input was substantially equal to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said measuring a speech reception threshold utilizing the at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

accepting test subject input in response to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word; and

increasing a speech parameter if the test subject input was substantially not equal to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said measuring a speech reception threshold utilizing the at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

determining if a threshold is met in response to a history of one or more test subject inputs responsive to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein said determining if a threshold is met in response to a history of one or more test subject inputs responsive to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

determining the threshold via a Modified Hughson-Westlake procedure.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 7, wherein said determining if a threshold is met in response to a history of one or more test subject inputs responsive to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

determining the threshold via Parameter Estimation for Sequential Testing (PEST) procedure.

10. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

means for calibrating at least one recorded spoken word by controlling each of the at least one recorded spoken words to have substantially the same sound energy;

means for presenting the at least one calibrated spoken word to a test subject;
and

means for measuring a speech reception threshold of the test subject by utilizing the at least one calibrated spoken word, wherein the speech reception threshold is

indicative of a sound level at which the test subject can recognize the presented recorded spoken word or words.

11. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said means for presenting at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

means for presenting the at least one calibrated spoken word having root-mean-squared calibration.

12. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said means for presenting at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

means for presenting the at least one calibrated spoken word having peak value calibration.

13. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said means for presenting at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

means for transmitting the at least one calibrated spoken word via at least one audio speaker.

14. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said means for measuring a speech reception threshold utilizing the at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

means for accepting test subject input in response to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word; and

means for decreasing a speech parameter if the test subject input was substantially equal to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word.

15. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said means for measuring a speech reception threshold utilizing the at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

means for accepting test subject input in response to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word; and

means for increasing a speech parameter if the test subject input was substantially not equal to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word.

16. (Original) The system of Claim 10, wherein said means for measuring a speech reception threshold utilizing the at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

means for determining if a threshold is met in response to a history of one or more test subject inputs responsive to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word.

17. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein said means for determining if a threshold is met in response to a history of one or more test subject inputs responsive to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

means for determining the threshold via a Modified Hughson-Westlake procedure.

18. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein said means for determining if a threshold is met in response to a history of one or more test subject inputs responsive to the presented at least one calibrated spoken word comprises:

means for determining the threshold via Parameter Estimation for Sequential Testing (PEST) procedure.

19. (Previously Presented) A program product comprising:

means for calibrating at least one recorded spoken word by controlling each of the at least one recorded spoken words to have substantially the same sound energy;

means for presenting the at least one calibrated spoken word to a test subject;

means for measuring a speech reception threshold of the test subject by utilizing the at least one calibrated spoken word, wherein the speech reception threshold is indicative of a sound level at which the test subject can recognize the presented recorded spoken word or words; and

signal bearing media bearing said means for presenting and means for measuring.

20. (Original) The program product of Claim 19, wherein the signal bearing signal bearing media comprises a transmission media or a recordable media.